

Remarks:

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, and 4-17 to clarify the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-13, and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by 4,500,745 to Miggins. The Examiner rejected claims 5 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miggins.

Miggins does not disclose the invention recited in independent claims 1 and 11 since, among other things, Miggins does not disclose a bushing that includes an insulating core including an exterior surface and a continuous moisture diffusion barrier at least partially covering the exterior surface of the insulating core or a method for manufacturing such a bushing. Rather, Miggins discloses a bushing that includes a core impregnated with epoxy resin. Epoxy absorbs moisture when exposed to atmospheric conditions, as described at page 2, lines 35-36, of the specification of the present application. The claimed invention solves the problem of how to prevent moisture to diffuse into the insulating core of a bushing by at least partially covering the exterior surface of an insulating core with a moisture diffusion barrier.

Additionally, the core impregnated with epoxy resin disclosed by Miggins does not suggest at least partially covering the exterior surface of an insulating core with a moisture diffusion barrier. Along these lines, Miggins discloses a core partly filled with resin and partly

with oil. A lower portion of the core 30 is filled with epoxy resin up to a fill line 34. The epoxy resin is hardened by curing and forms a lower portion 16 of the bushing 10. The upper portion of the core is then filled with insulating oil. As described at col. 3, lines 49-53, Miggins shields the epoxy resin from erosion by weather by inserting the lower portion 16 of the core within electrical equipment. As a result, Miggins discloses that the epoxy resin need not to be shielded by a porcelain case as is the upper portion of the bushing. Such a core that is partially impregnated with epoxy does not disclose an insulating core having an exterior surface that is at least partially covered with a moisture diffusion barrier. A porcelain case covering a part of the core as described at col. 3, lines 51-53, leads away from the solution according to the claimed invention. Miggins does not include any disclosure of a diffusion barrier or a diffusion barrier including a continuous film on an exterior surface of the insulating core. Clearly, Miggins does not disclose the structure or method according to the claimed invention.

Miggins discloses a solution to the problem of SF₆ gas used as a dielectric contaminated by oil in the cores of bushings. Miggins also provides a solution to the problem of impregnating paper with epoxy resin due to the high viscosity of the resin. This is clearly described by Miggins at col. 1, lines 27-45.

In view of the above, Miggins does not disclose all elements of the invention recited in claims 1-4, 6-13, and 15-17. Since Miggins does not disclose all elements of the invention recited in claims 1-4, 6-13, and 15-17, the invention recited in claims 1-4, 6-13, and 15-17 is not properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). For an anticipation rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) no difference may exist between the claimed invention and the reference disclosure. *See Scripps Clinic*

and Research Foundation v. Genentech, Inc., 18 U.S.P.Q. 841 (C.A.F.C. 1984).

Along these lines, anticipation requires the disclosure, in a cited reference, of each and every recitation, as set forth in the claims. *See Hodosh v. Block Drug Co.*, 229 U.S.P.Q. 182 (Fed. Cir. 1986); *Titanium Metals Corp. v. Banner*, 227 U.S.P.Q. 773 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *Orthokinetics, Inc. v. Safety Travel Chairs, Inc.*, 1 U.S.P.Q.2d 1081 (Fed. Cir. 1986); and *Akzo N.V. v. U.S. International Trade Commissioner*, 1 U.S.P.Q.2d 1081 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Miggins does not suggest the invention recited in claims 5 and 14 since, among other things, Miggins does not suggest a bushing that includes an insulating core including an exterior surface and a continuous moisture diffusion barrier at least partially covering the exterior surface of the insulating core or a method for manufacturing such a bushing. Miggins does not suggest any diffusion barrier. Rather, Miggins only suggests impregnating a portion of a core with epoxy resin. The epoxy resin does not cover an exterior surface of the core and certainly not essentially all of the outer surface of the core. Significantly, as described at page 2, lines 35-36, of the specification of the present application, epoxy absorbs moisture when exposed to atmospheric conditions rather than acting as a moisture barrier. Furthermore, Miggins explicitly states that if the portion of the core that is epoxy impregnated is exposed to weather, the portion needs to be shielded by a porcelain case. Also, as noted above, Miggins suggests a solution to a different problem than the claimed invention addresses. Therefore, Miggins does not suggest the invention recited in claims 5 and 14.

In view of the above, the reference relied upon in the office action does not disclose or

suggest patentable features of the claimed invention. Consequently, the reference relied upon in the office action does not anticipate the claimed invention or make the claimed invention obvious. Hence, the claimed invention is patentable over the cited reference and Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections based on the cited reference.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this case and issuance of the notice of allowance.

If an interview would advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants respectfully urge the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

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